

Public Safety Broadband Network (PSBN) Commission
Department of Public Safety Headquarters, Emergency Operations Center, Waterbury
Minutes of Meeting
June 14, 2017

- Chair, Terry LaValley, called the meeting to order at 1:34 pm with the following **Commission members** present: **Al Barber**, Vermont Fire Chiefs; **Frank Constantino**, Agency of Digital Services; **Jim Porter**, Public Service; **Barbara Neal**, E-911 Board; **Ken Jones**, ACCD; **Chris Herrick**, Department of Public Safety; **Thomas Hango**, Vermont State Police; **Robert T. White**, Agency of Transportation; **Doug Johnston**, Vermont Police Chiefs (via conference call); **Steven Locke**, Burlington Fire Department (via conference call); **Ron Kumetz**, Vermont Firefighters Association (via conference call); and also **present**: **Lisa Helme**, DPS; **Rhonda Camley**, DPS; **Bojan Brkovic**, DPS; **Suellen Royea**, DPS/CJS; **Doug Fellows**, Eastern Communications, LTD.; **Jared Lamere**, E911 (via conference call); **Brandon Abley**, Televate (via conference call); **Rick Burke**, Televate (via conference call); **Michael Varney**, FirstNet; **Denis Leucham and Rick Kochler**, AT&T); **Clay Purvis**, Public Service; and **Steve Whitaker**, member of the public.
- **Agenda Review & Minute Approval:** **Chris Herrick moved to approve the agenda as proposed. Motion seconded by Al Barber. Motion carried. Robert White moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion seconded by Chris Herrick. Motion carried.**
- **Update from Terry LaValley, FirstNet Single Point of Contact, PSBC Chair:**
 - **Commission Membership Change:** Terry LaValley reported we are still waiting for an updated Executive Order regarding the E-911 Board position. Consequently, Barb Neal will abstain from voting until the issue is resolved. In addition, Bill Laferriere, the BGS representative, resigned. It was noted that at this time the BGS position will not be filled.
 - **Dallas Meeting:** Terry LaValley shared that Jim Porter, Robert White, Lisa Helme, John Quinn and himself attended the Dallas meeting. An article was sent out which captured the details of that meeting well. Some concerns about the Terms of Use policy for accessing the portal were expressed at the Dallas meeting. A new version was sent out yesterday by FirstNet, which is being reviewed by the Vermont Attorney General's Office. FirstNet indicated that the portal is scheduled to be available on June 19, 2017. Terry is confident that the Terms of Use issues will be resolved soon. In addition, a New England Regional meeting was held at the meeting in Dallas. A common theme in the NE region was coverage, along with priority and pre-emption for those in higher population states.
- **Review of PSBC schedule for State Draft Plan Evaluation:**
 - **Schedule Update and SLIGP Grant Update:** Terry LaValley noted that the grant funding will end on December 31, 2017, and turned the meeting over to Lisa Helme, who

provided additional information regarding funding and a review of the timeline (a handout of the schedule was distributed) and an update on the SLIGP Grant process. Lisa also reviewed the evaluation process for Vermont of the draft state plan and updates to the schedule.

- **Outreach Activities Update:** Lisa Helme continued her report that a newsletter was published on June 5, 2017; hard copies were mailed out to agencies and copies were emailed to just over 700. She noted that the new FirstNet/AT&T Marketing Portal link will be sent to those on the email list. Some questions asked included: whether enough outreach is being done, if the Commission would like to see anything different, and to what extent do we query our peers for opinions about the plan. It was thought that the efforts are good and that the hope is Commission members are bringing back the information to their respective members. A request was made for guidance on what information can be discussed with members. A question was asked about network availability for teams that cross state borders. It was noted that wherever the network is built out, they will have access. One exception is along the Canadian border, there will be network access, through a roaming agreement, but users will not have priority access and preemption while roaming on the Canadian network
- **Update on National FirstNet Status:** Mike Varney briefly reviewed the timelines with the final Governor's decision due by the end of the year. He reported that at the meeting last week, they received good feedback from Vermont, talked about some of the contents in the portal, and the NTIA and SLIGP updates. The portal should be accessible next week and will do their best to help (a State Plan Portal Quick Reference Guide was distributed). A question was asked about how folks will know the SPP is available. Mike Varney responded that an email will be sent with a link noting that the site is live. Another question was asked about accepting the Terms of Use. Terry LaValley noted the Terms of Use concerns pertain to State employees should be resolved shortly. He suggested non-State employees should conduct their own review of the Terms of Use. It was noted that there will be a help desk for using the portal and almost every page has a comment area, which can be gathered using a report.
- **General Business:** No new business was discussed.
- **Public Comment:** Steve Whitaker noted that a response has not been received regarding the proposed penalty questions he submitted at the last meeting. He shared his thoughts about the commission and the approach to evaluating the draft state plan for Vermont. Whitaker said that open meeting law most certainly applies to those sub-committee meetings, for which I was verbally assured, as reflected in the draft minutes, that those meetings would be conducted in accordance with Vermont open meeting laws. Terry LaValley responded that the questions submitted are being reviewed and some of the answers are pending. Terry also commented

that it was the commission's intention to follow all public meeting laws. No additional comments were given.

- **Next Meetings:** There will not be a PSBC meeting on July 5. The next PSBC meeting is scheduled for July 18, 1:30-3:30 p.m. at DPS HQ. If needed, a second PSBC meeting will be held on July 20, 1-4 p.m. at DPS HQ and a third PSBC meeting on July 27, 9:30-11:30 a.m. at DPS HQ.
- **Chris Herrick moved to adjourn. Robert White seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm.**